

A Faithful Servant & His Faithful Lord

Text: II Timothy 4:1-8

- **INTRODUCTION:** This is the last book that the Apostle Paul penned chronologically. Paul is in Rome in the time of Nero, awaiting execution. As a Roman citizen he would escape crucifixion and be beheaded. In this last chapter of the book (chapter 4) is what some have called “Paul’s Last Will & Testament.” He wants to encourage Timothy in his work for the Lord and to instruct him on what to expect as the “torch is passed” to him. Paul reminds Timothy that he was faithful to the Lord Jesus and encourages Timothy to stand fast. He reminds Timothy that they serve a God and a Savior who is likewise faithful.

I. **The Charge of Paul to Timothy (vs. 1-5)**

A. The Authority of the charge (v. 1)

1. “Charge” is a military term that denotes that it is not just a suggestion.

B. This charge is based on and backed by the Father & The Son.

1. The One who will keep His promises to judge both living & dead.
2. This confirms that Jesus is coming again.

C. *The Charge- v.2*

1. *Preach the Word! –stress inerrancy of the Word of God.*
 - a. 2 Tim. 3:14-18 Continue in the Word of God.
2. Be ready at all times to stand upon & proclaim the Word of God.
3. Be faithful to do it the same no matter where you are.
4. How to “preach the Word”
 - a. Convince (NKJV) Reprove
 - b. Rebuke
 - c. Exhort
 - d. Teaching and doctrine

D. Why The Urgency to preach the Word? V. 3

1. “For the time will come..” (Already there)
 - a. Many “will not endure sound doctrine” –leaving the Word of God.
 - b. They will not want to follow the Bible anymore unless convenient
 - aa. Jesus said, “If you love Me, Keep My commandments.”
 - c. People will find teachers who will tell them what they want to hear.

E. Christians will turn “aside” Leave the Truth, Church & the Lord V. 4

1. They will base their beliefs not on the Bible, but on fables.
- F. What Paul Tells Timothy To Do. V. 5
1. Be Watchful
 - a. Timothy must know the Word and know what he believes in order
To confront error—2 Tim. 2:15-importance of study—2Tim 3:14-15
 2. Do the work of an evangelist-Timothy was to faithfully preach and teach the Word of God. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16)
 3. Fulfill your ministry-he had a course to follow—Paul tells about his in v. 7
- II. **The Last Will & Testament of Paul (vs. 6-8)**
- A. Paul tells us he knows his time is short (v. 6). He is not bitter; he knows he has been faithful & that he serves a Lord who is equally faithful.
 - B. Paul recounts his walk for Jesus v. 7
 1. I have fought the good fight – I Tim. 6:12ff
 2. I have finished the course (race) I Cor. 9:24-27 “The Imperishable (Incorruptable (KJV) Crown
 3. I have kept the faith (Jude 3)
 - C. The Result of a life lived for Jesus and one based on living in expectation of the return of the Lord Jesus. V. 8
 1. Jesus is coming back personally
 2. Rewards (Crowns) are to be obtained through faithful service.
 - a. The Crown of Righteousness (v 8)
 - aa. Basis of receiving this crown? Believing that Jesus is coming again and living a life of expectation of this fact.
 3. Who gives the crown?—the faithful judge, Jesus.
 - a. Paul had seen many unfaithful and unfair judges.
 4. Who will receive the Crown of Righteousness?
 - a. All who love the Lord’s Coming

Conclusion & Invitation

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